

Message Text

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FM AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5428

INFO AMEMBASSY BLANTYRE

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMCONSUL LOURENCO MARQUES

AMCONSUL LUANDA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, PFOR, MZ, TZ, PO

SUBJECT: TANZANIA CRITICAL OF PORTUGUESE STANCE ON TERRITORIES

1. EDITORIAL IN MAY 23 GOVERNMENT-OWNED TANZANIA DAILY NEWS IS HIGHLY CRITICAL OF CURRENT PORTUGUESE POLICY TOWARDS HER AFRICAN TERRITORIES. REFERRING TO PRONOUNCEMENT ABOUT REFERENDUM MADE MAY 21 IN LM BY PORTUGUESE INTER-TERRITORIAL COORDINATION MINISTER ALMEIDA SANTOS, EDITORIAL ASKS WHAT KIND OF ANTI-COLONIALIST IS IT WHO CAN "INSULT SOVEREIGN PEOPLE BY ASKING THEM TO VOTE ON WHETHER OR NOT THEY THINK THEY SHOULD BE FREE?" EDITORIAL ADDS THAT "INDEPENDENCE IS NOT SOMETHING YOU VOTE FOR OR AGAINST IN REFERENDUM IMPOSED BY COLONIALISTS; IT IS A RIGHT, A FUNDAMENTAL HUMAN RIGHT."

2. GOVERNMENT-OWNED PAPER ALSO HIGHLIGHTED CONTRADICTIONS IN VARIOUS STATEMENTS OUT OF LISBON ON PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES. NOTED THAT COMMUNISTS AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATS, FOR EXAMPLE, WANT IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION OF RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE, COMMENTING THAT -AS LONG AS

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THEY ACTIVELY PURSUE THIS LINE WE WILL CONSIDER THEM OUR BROTHERS."

OTHE ELEMENTS WANT TO RETAIN COLONIAL DOMINATION IN NEW FORM,
POSITION APPARENTLY HELD BY SPINOLA, WHICH WE REJECT.

3. EDITORIAL ARGUED THAT PORTUGAL IS GOVERNED BY MEN WHO HAVE NOT
YET AGREED TO PEOPLES' RIGHT TO INDEPENDENCE. THEY KNOW MOMENT
THEY AGREE TO ACCEPT THIS PRINCIPLE, FRELIMO AND MPLA WILL AGREE
TO NEGOTIATE WITH THEM. CALLING FOR END TO THIS AMBIGUOUS TALK
OF CEASEFIRES, PEACE PROPOSALS, SELF-DETERMINATION, AND REFERENDA,
EDITORIAL SAID ALL PORTUGAL HAS TO DO IS RECOGNIZE JUSTICE OF
DECLARATION MADE BY FRELIMO PRESIDENT MACHEL: "PEACE IS
INSEPARABLE FROM NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE, FOR ONLY WITH NATIONAL
INDEPENDENCE WILL WAR END, AND WILL THERE BE PEACE IN MOZAMBIQUE."

4 COMMENT: EDITORIAL HIGHLIGHTS IMMEDIACY WHICH TANGOV APPEARS
TO BE PLACING ON SETTLEMENT OF PORTUGUESE AFRICAN QUESTIONS
GENERALLY AND MOZAMBIQUE QUESTION IN PARTICULAR.
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